STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FEBRUARY 16, 2010

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

REPORT OF THE UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLEANUP FUND (CLEANUP FUND) TASKFORCE

DISCUSSION

At its regular meeting on May 19, 2009, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted Resolution 2009-0042, which among other things directed staff to create a taskforce. The Cleanup Fund Taskforce's charge is to make recommendations for improvements to Cleanup Fund administrative procedures in response to the current cash shortage facing the program. The State Water Board also directed the Cleanup Fund Taskforce to provide input to the independent audit of the Cleanup Fund, which was also directed under Resolution No. 2009-0042.

The Cleanup Fund Taskforce first met on July 15, 2009. The group consists of 15 members representing underground storage tank owners and operators, consultants, regulators and environmental groups. The Cleanup Fund Taskforce submitted interim or short-term recommendations to the State Water Board in October 2009, and these recommendations were addressed in Resolution No. 2009-081 adopted November 17, 2009.

Cleanup Fund Taskforce members will present additional recommendations to the State Water Board.

POLICY ISSUE

None at this time; informational item.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time; informational item.

REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT

None at this time; informational item.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None at this time; informational item.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the State and Regional Water Boards in reaching Goals 2, 5, and 6 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to improve and protect groundwater quality in high-use basins by 2030, improve transparency and accountability, and enhancing consistency across the State and Regional Water Boards to ensure our processes are effective, efficient and predictable.